

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 16 with the following paragraph:

3 In this and other embodiments, a thermal module may be used, that is either part of the reaction chamber or separate but can be brought into spatial proximity to the reaction module. The thermal module can include both heating and/or cooling capability. Suitable thermal modules are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,498,392 and 5,587,128 and WO 97/16561, incorporated by reference, and may comprise electrical resistance heaters, such as heater 250 in Fig. 1D, pulsed lasers or other sources of electromagnetic energy directed to the reaction chamber. It should also be noted that when heating elements are used, it may be desirable to have the reaction chamber be relatively shallow, to facilitate heat transfer; see U.S. Patent No. 5,587,128.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 39, line 5 with the following paragraph:

4 In a preferred embodiment, the pumps are contained on the device itself. These pumps are generally electrode based pumps; that is, the application of electric fields can be used to move both charged particles and bulk solvent, depending on the composition of the sample and of the device. Suitable on chip pumps include, but are not limited to, electroosmotic (EO) pumps and electrohydrodynamic (EHD) pumps; these electrode based pumps have sometimes been referred to in the art as "electrokinetic (EK) pumps". All of these pumps rely on configurations of electrodes placed along a flow channel, such as pump 260 in Fig. 1A comprising electrodes 261 and 262, to result in the pumping of the fluids comprising the sample components. As is described in the art, the configurations for each of these electrode based pumps are slightly different; for example, the effectiveness of an EHD pump depends on the spacing between the two electrodes, with the closer together they are, the smaller the voltage required to be applied to effect fluid flow. Alternatively, for EO pumps, the spacing between the electrodes should be larger, with up to one-half the length of the channel in which fluids are being moved, since the electrode are only involved in applying force, and not, as in EHD, in creating charges on which the force will act.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 40, line 28 with the following paragraph:

5 In a preferred embodiment, the devices of the invention include at least one fluid valve that can control the flow of fluid into or out of a module of the device, such as valve 280 in Fig. 1A, or divert the flow into one or more channels. A variety of valves are known in the art. For example, in one embodiment, the valve may comprise a capillary barrier, as generally described in PCT

CB US97/07880, incorporated by reference. In this embodiment, the channel opens into a larger space designed to favor the formation of an energy minimizing liquid surface such as a meniscus at the opening. Preferably, capillary barriers include a dam that raises the vertical height of the channel immediated before the opening into a larger space such a chamber. In addition, as described in U.S. Patent No. 5,858,195, incorporated herein by reference, a type of "virtual valve" can be used.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 43, line 16 with the following paragraph:

cd The detection electrode, such as electrode 35 in Fig. 2, comprises a self-assembled monolayer (SAM), such as monolayer 100 comprising conductive oligomers. By "monolayer" or "self-assembled monolayer" or "SAM" herein is meant a relatively ordered assembly of molecules spontaneously chemisorbed on a surface, in which the molecules are oriented approximately parallel to each other and roughly perpendicular to the surface. Each of the molecules includes a functional group that adheres to the surface, and a portion that interacts with neighboring molecules in the monolayer to form the relatively ordered array. A "mixed" monolayer comprises a heterogeneous monolayer, that is, where at least two different molecules make up the monolayer. The SAM may comprise conductive oligomers alone, or a mixture of conductive oligomers and insulators. As outlined herein, the efficiency of target analyte binding (for example, oligonucleotide hybridization) may increase when the analyte is at a distance from the electrode. Similarly, non-specific binding of biomolecules, including the target analytes, to an electrode is generally reduced when a monolayer is present. Thus, a monolayer facilitates the maintenance of the analyte away from the electrode surface. In addition, a monolayer serves to keep charged species away from the surface of the electrode. Thus, this layer helps to prevent electrical contact between the electrodes and the ETMs, or between the electrode and charged species within the solvent. Such contact can result in a direct "short circuit" or an indirect short circuit via charged species which may be present in the sample. Accordingly, the monolayer is preferably tightly packed in a uniform layer on the electrode surface, such that a minimum of "holes" exist. The monolayer thus serves as a physical barrier to block solvent accesibility to the electrode.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 57, line 17 with the following paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the detection electrode, such as electrode 35 in Fig. 2, further comprises a capture binding ligand, such as ligand 120 in Fig. 2, preferably covalently attached. In general, for most of the "mechanism-2" embodiments described herein, there are at least two binding ligands